

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1-39 Cancel

40. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a host device having two or more ports configured to be coupled to a sequential device via corresponding links, wherein the host device is configured to associate a command identifier with a command, to transmit the command via a first one of the ports, to detect a failure associated with the transmission of the command via the first one of the ports, ~~request a status of the command via the second one of the ports, receive an indication of a number of data bytes received by the router in response to requesting the status of the command and to transmit the~~ command via a second one of the ports, wherein the host is configured to make the command identifier explicit in the command, wherein the host device is configured to request a status of the command via the second one of the ports, wherein the host device is configured to receive a number of data bytes received in response to requesting the status of the command, and wherein the host device is configured to request recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received and receive acknowledgement of acceptance of acceptance of the recovery request.

41. Cancel

42. Cancel

43. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

associating a first command identifier with a first command, ~~wherein associating the first command identifier with the first command comprises making the first command identifier explicit in the first command;~~
transmitting the first command via a first link;
detecting a failure of the first link;
~~requesting a status of execution of the first command;~~

~~receiving the status of execution of the first command;~~
~~requesting recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received;~~
~~receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request;~~
transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier via a
second link;
prior to transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier
via the second link, requesting a status of execution of the first command,
receiving the status of execution of the first command, requesting recovery
starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received and receiving
acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request;
wherein associating the first command identifier with the first command comprises
making the first command identifier explicit in the first command;

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the status indicates a number of bytes of the first command actually received by ~~the~~ a router.

45. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having one or more computer readable media with computer readable program code stored thereon, wherein said computer readable program code is configured to cause a device programmed with the program code to perform the method comprising:

associating a first command identifier with a first command;
transmitting the first command via a first link;
detecting a failure of the first link;
~~requesting a status of execution of the first command;~~
~~receiving the status of execution of the first command;~~
~~requesting recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received;~~
~~receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request; and~~
transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier via a
second link; and
prior to transmitting at least a portion of the first command and the first command
identifier via the second link, requesting a status of execution of the first
command, receiving the status of execution of the first command, requesting

recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received and receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 45, wherein the status indicates a number of bytes of the first command actually received.